

ONLY FOUR VOTES FOR IT.

Long Distance Telephone Proposition
Overwhelmingly Defeated.

SENATOR DANIEL'S PLEADING IN VAIN.

He Spoke for Two Hours and a Half Before the Common Council Last Night in Behalf of the Long Distance People. Will Now Abandon Their Fight.

AYES.—Bloomber, Ebel, Miller and Noble, NOES.—Blanks, Briggs, Cottrill, Foster, Gust, Harrison, Hawkins, Jones, King, Loeber, Mosby, Pollock, Rountree, Ryan, Tanner, Wallerstein, Whalen, Williams, and Woody.

The above is the vote by which the Common Council, at 2:15 o'clock this morning, rejected the ordinance reported from the Street Committee, proposing to grant to the American Telephone and Telegraph Company local and long-distance telephone franchises in the city of Richmond.

For six hours did the Council and a large gathering of interested citizens, including some of Richmond's most influential business men listen to the full and free discussion of the question on its merits and in all its phases and the downfall of the petition was as complete as its bitterest opponent could have asked.

In the absence of the president, Mr. Mark Gust was elected president pro tem. The members present were Messrs. Blanks, Bloomber, Briggs, Ebel, Foster, Gust, Harrison, Hawkins, Jones, King, Loeber, Mosby, Noble, Pollock, Rountree, Ryan, Tanner, Wallerstein, Whalen, Williams, and Woody.

After the reading of the joint resolution providing for the session, and the ordinance, Mr. Bloomber moved that the committee for the telephone companies be heard.

Mr. Hawkins moved to amend by allowing the representatives of citizens to be heard. This was accepted by Mr. Bloomber, and adopted.

Mr. Wallerstein moved to allow one hour to representatives of the two companies, and half an hour to the representatives of the Citizens' Committee to present their views, in order to facilitate matters.

Mr. Bloomber opposed the plan, as he thought unlimited debate would give an opportunity for those who did not hear the argument before the committee to understand the question.

Mr. Wallerstein then withdrew his motion, and Colonel George Wayne Anderson introduced Colonel E. B. Meany, who addressed the Council on behalf of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company of Virginia.

General Meany opened by thanking the Council for the courtesy, and promised to be brief. He began by tracing the history of the telephone and telegraph, and the remarkable advantages now enjoyed by business men, on account of the perfection of the long-distance telephone. He then gave the story of his company and the development of its system. In coming to Richmond they were not met with the welcome expected. He deprecated the necessity of appearing in the present room. General Meany denied that his company was part and parcel of the Southern Bell Telephone Company. No two companies could be more dissimilar than they are now, he said. His company was organized under the laws of Virginia, just as the Standard Telephone Company.

Charges had been made, he said, but he awaited specifications before denying them. He then, at some length, defended his company's history during its twelve years' existence. He challenged the representatives of the other company to show where his had ever violated an agreement with any municipality.

THE LOCAL COMPANY. General Meany then discussed the finances of the local company and alleged that it was not properly conducted. The Southern Bell, he said, had been condemned for failure to comply with its contract with the city. He denied being an apologist for that company, and he proceeded to call attention to the provisions of the city ordinance, to carry out the provisions of the city ordinance.

It was the intention of his company to connect with the Southern Bell Telephone Company if it could provide proper terminal facilities. It was not in condition to do so now, but if this was remedied they expected to connect with the Bell Company. They did not expect to connect with the Bell Company, but they expected to connect with the Bell Company, because in his opinion they could not furnish the proper facilities.

General Meany said his company had no contract with the Bell Company, but he would not furnish the proper facilities, and spoke of some of the difficulties which presented themselves to his mind, as a result of connections with rival companies.

General Meany thought the local company should be making an effort to connect with the Bell Company, but he was endeavoring to have a maximum rate fixed.

A. B. Guigon, Esq., said he felt some hesitancy in appearing against such a formidable array of talent. He thought it would have been better for him to have been allowed to close, but he submitted to the Council's wish.

He had expected from rumors that his company would be faced alive, and was surprised at what had been said. He contended that the local company had acted in good faith by the people of Richmond and that the Southern Bell Company was making the Bell Company's franchise showed that it did not believe that company had acted so.

Captain Guigon said neither he nor any one else had claimed that the American Telephone and Telegraph Company and the Southern Bell Company were identical, but he called attention to the fact that many of the officers were the same. He said that the interests of the two companies were identical.

In regard to General Meany's reference to the Richmond Telephone Company's finances, Captain Guigon asked if this furnished sufficient reason why a perpetual franchise should be granted to the Long Distance Company.

As regards the reasons why the Long Distance Company was unwilling to make connections, he said the reasons were not the same as first given.

He then told the story of the invitation extended by the Long Distance Company to a representative of the local company to be present at the test and its later withdrawal.

Captain Guigon characterized the reasons assigned by General Meany for not making connections with the local system as "arrant nonsense."

NO OTHER CHANCE. He deplored what the result would be if the Long Distance Company was allowed to crush out the home enterprise. No other capital would ever be invested in a similar venture no matter how grievous the case might become.

In no other city in the United States had

IN FAVOR OF BIMETALLISM.

But the Maryland State Convention Said Nothing About Ratio.

"HONEST MONEY" WAS DECLARED FOR.

Senator Gorman Controlled the Convention and Dictated All Its Movements. The Dingley Bill Condemned. The Candidates Nominated.

BALTIMORE, MD., July 28.—Harmony of the old-fashioned kind prevailed at the Democratic State Convention here to-day, and it was clearly demonstrated that United States Senator Gorman still has his hand on the lever that controls the movements of the organization. The candidates nominated by the convention were selected by him, and the resolutions adopted were of his inspiration.

As chairman of the Committee on Resolutions, he read the platform, and read it in such a way as to indicate that he knew it almost without looking at it. He then declared for bimetallicism.

At his suggestion one of the candidates for Comptroller withdrew when his nomination seemed assured and another was taken up by the convention, and at this request both gold and silver money were their conviction for the one, and voted to adopt a platform that declares for bimetallicism, but is silent as to the vital question of "ratio."

The platform declares that the fundamental principles of Democracy remain unchanged, that the demand of Maryland for the gold and silver money, and the coming of both metals, without discrimination against either, into standard dollars of final payment and redemption, is a demand which will safeguard the six and one-half millions of Democratic voters forced President McKinley and a Republican Congress to send a commission abroad to negotiate with European countries for the restoration of bimetallicism.

THE DINGLEY BILL CONDEMNED. The Dingley tariff bill is termed a mere odious measure that the McKinley act of 1890, and it is asserted that it will be more signally condemned in 1898 than was the McKinley act in 1892. A demand is made that the United States Government should not be allowed to surrender the tariff to the interests of a few manufacturers, and the tariff should be placed in the hands of the people.

The following State ticket was nominated: For Comptroller—Thomas A. Smith, of Caroline county.

For Clerk of the Court of Appeals—J. Frank Ford, of St. Mary's county.

SUNK AT SEA.

The British Barkentine Florence Sent to the Bottom in a Collision.

POSTON, July 28.—The Allan Line steamer Scandinavian arrived this afternoon from Glasgow and brought with her the four survivors of the crew of the British barkentine Florence, which was sunk in a collision with the Scandinavian last Saturday, while in a dense fog, two miles off Cape Cod.

Colonel Cary, as did Mr. Powers, argued the question as one of business and honor. "You would inflict a heavy injury upon your own citizens by granting this franchise," said he. If the Richmond Telephone Company had not constructed its present plant the city would now be without telephone communications, and gratitudes and bores would be due to the city.

While the long-distance telephone was useful, he did not regard it as indispensable. He begged that the Council should not be persuaded to be seduced by the persuasive oratory of the Senator from Lynchburg.

Major Norman V. Randolph opened by objecting to an allusion made by General Meany to the word American, which he construed as a reflection on the people of Richmond.

He said the petitions presented represented every class of the business interests of the city and should receive attention.

John S. Ebel, president of the State Bank of Virginia, endorsed the remarks of the Citizens' Committee.

MAJOR DANIEL. Hon. John W. Daniel in opening, said he did not think he was a dangerous man despite the remarks of several of the speakers.

He declared that the policy of the whole country had been to invite capital, and if Richmond did otherwise, she would be alone. The policy of the country was to diffuse knowledge by every means.

General Meany denied that he was present to fight the local company, but he was to defend his own. He took issue with those who declared his company was a monopoly. The word was defined as a right to do any given thing. He denied that he had any such right, and he denied the sole right to sell sound and were into a lengthy argument to prove his contention.

He charged that the Richmond Home Company sought to become a monopoly. Major Daniel said that the local company had a right to try to shut out competition.

NO TACTIC UNDERSTANDINGS. Arguing the question of good faith Maj. Daniel held that no exclusive franchise had been granted to the home company. Another charter was granted the same night. The Council, he said, could not have a tacit understanding with any one. Laws must be written, and plain as to the meaning of the word "exclusive."

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ALMOST A TRAGEDY ON THE STAGE.

The Pistol Was Loaded and the Professor Thinking It Contained a Blank Cartridge, Fired and Shot a Negro in the Arm—Might Have Killed His Wife.

While the vaudeville show was going on before a large audience at Forest Hill Park last evening, an incident occurred which had not been provided for on the programme and which created some little excitement among those who happened to be aware of it, while the big crowd was left in utter ignorance until after the close of the show.

HIS TRICK MISCARRIED. Everything had worked very smoothly until Professor Charles J. Carter, the magician, entered the stage and produced his usual tricks before the attentive audience. One of the acts to be performed by him consisted in the firing of a pistol at his wife, who was standing in a position to make her disappear from the stage by some mystic process.

He had done so successfully on the previous evening, ever since he has been performing before a Richmond and Manchester audience and he felt confident that nothing wrong would happen last evening when he picked up the pistol to do the act. He fired as usual but aimed a little to the right from where his wife stood.

SHOT A NEGRO BOY. The report of the shot had hardly died out when a subdued cry could be heard by those near by. It emanated from a colored boy who was standing in the crowd, who was employed behind the scene and who was just ready to let down the curtain, having his left arm raised, holding the ropes. It so happened that the pistol fired by the professor contained a ball cartridge, and the bullet struck the boy in the left forearm.

As soon as he felt he was hurt, he ran behind the stage where he met Manager Horace P. Smith. The latter at once notified the professor not to shoot any more. His advice was of course promptly accepted.

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WEYLER GETTING ACTIVE.

His Announcement That He Will Shortly Take the Field.

HAVANA, July 28.—VIA KEY WEST, Fla., July 28.—Captain General Weyler, it is announced will take the field in a few days to personally direct military operations in the Havana Province against the band of insurgents.

The members who are sworn to faithfully and impartially perform the duties of their office, and will be authorized and empowered to enforce the judgments and awards.

It shall also be empowered to subpoena witnesses and to take any other action as a board of arbitrators duly appointed under the act of Assembly of the State of Pennsylvania relating to compulsory arbitration.

The agreement shall not become effective unless it has been signed by 15 of the operators on or before January 1, 1898.

After 90 per cent. have signed the agreement, the balance of the operators on the condition that enough have signed to render it effective, a meeting shall be held in Pittsburgh to decide if in force.

The former three, who were first signers, want it distinctly understood that the passage of an agreement whereby all the operators on the line are to be bound and are to pay the same relative price for mining, has nothing to do with the agreement.

The operators have also shut out the miners from taking any part in the conference, and have taken through questions arising between the operators and miners by inserting a clause in the agreement that the arbitration shall be composed of workmen employed by the subscribers. Heretofore the miners have been the arbiters, but now the miners are to grapple with the questions in dispute alone.

It was decided that present contracts could not be made the basis for arbitration. Many firms have taken contracts for a stipulated period at a fixed price. It is understood that these shall have the right to supply the product to the contract at the rate of mining on which the contracts are based. Here is where the miners and operators will separate.

The attendance at the session today was not as large as the day before. The operators were a close vote on the question of whether the five river miners agreed to take part in the convention, which is a larger per centage than 10.

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